

MERIEULT MANSION
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
[DATA PAGES ONLY]

HABS
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SEE ALSO LA, 36-NEWOR, 44

SITE OF MERIEULT STABLES, 718 TOULOUSE ST

Merieult Mansion, 527-533 Royal Street

In his report of the great fire of December 8th, 1794, Governor Carondelet mentions the house of Don Juan Merieult (Jean Francois Merieult) as being one of the few houses in the city, the only one on this square, to survive the fire. The house was new then, having been built after Merieult purchased the lot at public sale from the Succession of Don Pedro Aragon Y Villegas.

Aragon y Villegas was a banker and merchant who financed the Royal Government in various projects, and was appointed administrator of the education of the children and youth of the Province.

On March 1, 1819, Madame Merieult (Catherine Margarite MacNemara), then a widow, sold the property to Jean Lanna, and two years later, he sold it to Laurent Millaudon. Lanna is listed as a merchant in the Directory of 1805 and again in that of 1820. Millaudon was a prominent commission merchant and planter. Both men were connected with the Consolidated Bank. The number of the house then was 149.

Lizardi Hermanos (Lizardi Brothers) acquired the property in 1832. Antonio Maria Pintado, possibly the Lieutenant Surveyor of the district of Iberville, who has left such a valuable collection of papers, seems to have taken the house on terms he could not fulfill, and three years later, it reverted to Lizardi Hermanos, at a price of \$80,000. This increase in price indicated that during these three years the house was reconditioned, and the Classic Revival details were substituted for the original Spanish mouldings, and the square granite openings were substituted for the original arches.

Lizardi Hermanos, who were commission merchants, resided here for the next twenty-two years, when the place was acquired at a greatly reduced price, by Theodore Danflous, a saddler and harness maker. The number of the house was given as 149.

Fourteen years later, the mansion was acquired by Ivan Garcia y Mora, who, in 1870, sold cigar and Louisiana Lottery tickets at the corner of Bienville and Exchange Alley, then his residence.

Seven years later, it reverted to the widow of Theodore Danflous, who, wishing to return to her native France, sold it to Jean Baptiste Trapolin for the small sum of \$8,500. The place remained in the Trapolin family until acquired by Col. L. Kemper Williams, April 29th, 1938. While owned by the Trapolins, the building was for many years known as "The Royal House", and operated as a hotel. It was patronized by many wealthy and noted people, possibly the over-flow from the Hotel Royal, or St. Louis Hotel, opposite.

After being purchased by Col. Williams, the old mansion was completely reconditioned in the traditional style of Mr. Richard Koch, architect. See 718 Toulouse Street

529-531 ROYAL ST.

(A certain lot of ground, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, in the 2nd. district, in square #62, bounded by Royal, Toulouse, Bourbon and St. Louis streets, and measuring 63' 11" front on Royal street by 159' 10' 6" in depth, B.P.L., together with a portion of ground adjoining the above described property on the Toulouse street side in its extreme depth and forming a square used as yard of 16' 3' 2" together with all the right of said property to the use in common of two alleys, one opening on Royal street and the other on Toulouse street, the whole as per plan drawn by J.A. D'Hemecourt, Surveyor, Sept. 7th, 1858 and annexed to an act passed before Theodore Guyol, late Notary Public, on December 22nd, 1871 - - - LESS AND EXCEPT such part of the property above described as was conveyed in the sale by Louise Raimbault, widow of Jean Baptiste Trapolin, et al, to the American Homesteads Ass'n, by act before F.D. Charbonnet, Notary Public, dated July 19th, 1921, and recorded in C.O.B. 337 f 214, and described as follows: A lot of ground, together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, situated in the 2nd. district, square #62, and bounded by Toulouse, Royal, St. Louis and Bourbon streets, designated by the letter "Y" on a sketch made by E.L. Eustis, D.C.S., June 10, 1921 and annexed to an act passed before F.D. Charbonnet, Notary Public, on July 19, 1921 and according to same said lot is situated at a distance of 138' 5' 4" from the corner of Royal and Toulouse streets, and measured thence 22' 11' 4" front on Toulouse street by a depth of 127' 5' 4" on the side line parallel to Bourbon street and running toward St. Louis street, thence measures 33' 2' on a line parallel to Toulouse street running toward Royal street, thence measuring 63' 11" on a line parallel with Royal street running toward Toulouse street, thence measuring 10' 9" on a line toward Bourbon street, and thence measuring 3' 6' 4" on a line parallel to Royal street, running toward Toulouse street to the point of beginning; which said lot "Y" is composed of original lots "A", "B" & "E" and common alley "C" (Improvements known as 718 Toulouse street) Together with a servitude to a common alley adjoining the property on the Toulouse street side, measuring 3' 2' 2" more or less, front on Royal street by the entire depth of the above described property as reduced by the deduction of that portion of said property sold to the American Homestead Ass'n.

Apr. 29, 1938
C.O.B.
499 p 409

Notary Public, R.E. Milling,
Present owner: L. Kemper Williams acquired
from John B. Trapolin; Dolores Camille
Trapolin, widow of John B. Cressend; Virginia
L. Trapolin, wife of Wm. C. Ludowig; and Corinne
Georgia Trapolin, wife of Wm. P. O'Toole.
(Buildings & Improvements)

Page 2.

Dec. 10, 1937
C.O.B.
496 p 100

Notary Public, Roger Meunier,
All the above named vendors acquired all the interest of
Mrs. Indiana Dorothy Trapolin, wife of Wm. F. Dewhirst.
(Buildings & Improvements)

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Dec. 10, 1937
C.O.B.
449 p. 93

Notary Public, Roger Meunier,
Mrs. Indiana Dorothy Trapolin, wife of Wm. F. Dewhirst;
John B. Trapolin and all the above named heirs acquired
from Mrs. Florida Edith Trapolin, widow of Albert L.
Guillot.
(Buildings & Improvements)

- - - - -

July 23, 1937
C.O.B.
492 p 410

Mrs. Florida Edith Trapolin, widow of Albert L. Guillot,
and above named heirs acquired from the Succession of
their mother, Mrs. Louise Rimbault, widow of Jean Baptiste
Trapolin by judgment in Succession #222048.
(Buildings & Improvements)

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July 28, 1927
C.O.B.
425 p 280

Mrs. Louise Rimbault, the widow, and all the above
named heirs acquired from the succession of Jean Baptiste
Trapolin, Succession #137424, Civil District Court.
(Buildings & Improvements)

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May 10, 1878
C.O.B.
111 p. 508

Notary Public, Jules F. Meunier, Act #127,
Jean Baptiste Trapolin acquired from Mrs. Anna Barbare
Benz, widow of Theodore Danflous.
Described as 63' 11" front on Royal street by 159' 10" 6"
(No exception mentioned) \$8,500.00.
(Buildings & Improvements)

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May 12, 1877
C.O.B.
110 p. 68

Notary Public, Theodore Guyol,
Mrs. Anna Barbara Benz, widow of Theodore Danflous,
acquired from Francisco C. Garcia y Barras and Jose
Garcia y Barras, by dation en paiement, \$16,333.35.
Description: Same as above.
(Buildings & Improvements)

Page 3.

June 10, 1874
C.O.B.
104 p. 371

Notary Public, A.J. Lewis,
Jose Garcia y Barras and Francisco C. Garcia y Barras
acquired an undivided 1/2 interest from Mrs. Pragades
Barras y Mora, widow of Juan Garcia y Mora.
(Buildings & Improvements)

March 19, 1874
C.O.B.
104 p 259

Jose Garcia y Barras and Francisco C. Garcia y Barras
acquired an undivided 1/2 interest, and Mrs. Pragades
Barras y Mora acquired an undivided 1/2 interest from
the Succession of Juan Garcia y Mora, Succession
#36982, Civil District Court.
(Buildings & Improvements)

Dec. 22, 1871
C.O.B.
101 p 34

Notary Public, Theodore Guyol,
Juan Garcia y Mora acquired from Theodore Danflous,
(Buildings & Improvements) \$23,000.00.

Apr. 30, 1857
C.O.B.
69 p 611

Notary Public, Theodore Guyol, Act #301,
Theodore Danflous acquired from Manuel J. de Lizardi.
\$15,000.00
Described as 60' front on Royal by 150' deep (Fr.)
(Buildings & Improvements)

Aug. 12, 1835
June 23, 1835

Notary Public, Octave de Armas, Act #426,
" " Francis B. Tillon, New York, N.Y.
Mamuel J. de Lizardi acquired from Antonio Maria
Pintado. Assumption of \$80,000.00 debt.
(Buildings & Improvements described as follows: A
large brick house fronting on Royal street and also the
stores, kithcen, appurtenances and tenements thereon.)

Sept. 22, 1832

Notary Public, L.T. Caire,
Antonio Maria Pintado acquired from Lizardi Hermanos
(Lizardi Brothers).
(Buildings & Improvements described same as above)

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Jan. 21, 1832
C.O.B.
10 p 258

Notary Public, Louis T. Caire, Act #60,
Lizardi Hermanos (Lizardi Brothers) acquired from
Laurent Millaudon.

(Buildings & Improvements described same as above)

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March 10, 1821

Notary Public, Marc. Lafitte, page #88
Laurent Millaudon acquired from Jean Lanna, \$36,000.00.
(Buildings & Improvements described same as above)

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March 1, 1819

Notary Public, Marc. Lafitte, page #79,
Jean Lanna acquired by auction sale from Mrs. Catherine
Macnamara Merieult, testamentary executrix and widow
of Jean Francois Merieult. \$37,150.00.
(Buildings & Improvements described same as above)
Note:- This sale also includes the property described
as #718 Toulouse St.

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Apr. 25, 1792

Notary Public, Francisco Broutin, page #86, Suit #63,
in Book 1791 - part 2, Sub. No. 3442.
Jean Francois Merieult acquired at public sale from
The Succession of Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas. \$1,610.00.

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Deposit of act of sale
by
Placide Forstall
in the name of
M.J. de Lizardi.
August 12th. 1835.

City of New Orleans, State of Louisiana, United States of America,
This twelfth day of August 1835 the 60th. year of the American
Independence,-

Before Octave de Armas, notary public of this City and Parish of
Orleans, in the presence of the hereafter named and undersigned
witnesses,-

Personally appeared Mr. Placide Forstall, of this City, acting for
and as agent of Mr. Manuel Julian de Lizardi, by virtue of the power
of attorney properly executed and deposited in the office by act of
the 18th day of July, last

Who in his capacity, requested the undersigned notary to receive and
accept, as title, act deposited in the Archives of his office, passed
before Francois R. Tillon, notary public, on the 23rd. day of June
1835. In the state of New York. The said act pertaining to the sale
made by Mr. Antonio Maria Pintado to Mr. Manuel Julian de Lizardi of a
property situated in this City, on Royal street between St. Louis and
Toulouse with full rights and guarantees as found and composed as
described in the said act.

The said sale thus made for and in consideration of sum of Eighty
thousand piastres cash, in accordance with the terms of the said act
which was duly registered in the office of the controller of liens,
for the City and parish of Orleans on the 24th day of last July.-

Subsequent to the above, the undersigned notary, in accordance with
the request of the appearer, accepted as such the act deposited in his
Archives, there to remain forever- Which act;-

Done and passed at New Orleans, La; in the office on the day, month
and year as stated above in the presence of Messrs. Edouard Lavigne
and Pierre Pascales La Barre, competent witnesses who with the appearer
and notary signed after reading thereof.-

E. Lavigne.

Placide Forstall

P.P. Labarre

Octave de Armas, not. pub.

Acte 426

Depot d'Acte de Vente
par
Placide Forstall
au nom de
M.J. de Lizardi.
August 12th.1835

Ville de la Nouvelle Orleans, Etat de la Louisiane, Etats Unis
d'Amerique,
Aujourd'hui Douzieme jour du mois d'Aout Mil huit cent trente cinq,
l'an soixante de l'Independance Americaine.
Pardevant Octave de Armas, Notaire Public, pour la ville et Paroisse
d'Orleans et en presence des temoins ci-apres nommes et soussignes,
A personnellement compare M. Placide Forstall, de cette ville, agissant
au nom et comme fonde de pouvoir de Mr. Manuel Julian de Lizardi, on
vertu de la procuration en bonne et due forme deposee en cette Etude,
par acte du dix-huit Juillet dernier,
Lequel, en sa dite qualite, a requis le notaire soussigne de recevoir,
a titre de depot, parmi les archives de son Etude, un acte passe le
vingt trois Juin Mil huit cent trente cinq, dans l'Etat de New York
pardevant Francois R. Tillon, notaire public pour de dit Etat.
Le dit acte portant vente par Mr. Antoine Maria Pintado, a Mr. Manuel
Julian de Lizardi, d'une propriete situee en cette ville Rue Royale entre
St.Louis et Toulouse, avec ses droits et appartenances, tel que le tout
est complement et decrit en dit acte de vente,
La dite vente ainsi faite pour la somme de Quatrevingt millen piastres
comptant, aux termes du susdit acte. lequel a ete dument enregistre le
vingt quatre Juillet dernier, au Bureau du controleur des alienations
pour cette ville et paroisse d'Orleans,
En consequence de ce, le dit notaire sousigne, obtemperant a la demande
du dit comparant, a recu au rang des archives de son Etude, susmentionnee,
pour y etre et demeure depose a perpetuite - Dont acte.
Fait et passe a la Nouvelle Orleans, en l'etude les jour, mois et an
susdits en presence des Sieurs Edouard Lavigne et Pierre Pascales LaBarre,
temoins competens qui ont signe les presentes avec le dit sieur comparant
et le notaire, apres lecture faite.-

E. Lavigne P.P. Labarre, Placit Forstall, Octave de Armas, n.p.

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"SALES AT AUCTION", - - - - , will be sold, - - - :

The house occupied by Mr. Millandon, In Royal street, adjoining the Consolidated Bank. It stands on a lot of 60 feet front on Royal street, with a depth of 150 feet, (F.M.) The building is well constructed, it is spacious and its distribution is good. In front and in the yard, there are spacious stores for groceries and dry goods, and may bring high rents. It also contains spacious lodgings for servants, stables and coach house. It is calculated as well for business as for an agreeable dwelling. The said premises have a right of servitude on the lots whereon the Consolidated Bank is situated, as well for openings as for passage; and has also another passage in Toulouse street communicating in the rear to a lot adjoining the principal lot, and having 13 ft. 4 inches fronting in the rear towards Royal street, and 15 ft. 4 inches fronting in the same depth with Toulouse street and which will be sold with the principal lot.

Copied from an ad: appearing in the Courier of Dec. 27, 1831:
City Hall Archives.

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EXCERPT FROM AN AD, TO RENT, IN THE COURIER OF JUNE 6, 1828;
CITY HALL ARCHIVES

A SPACIOUS HOUSE:

The upper part of that spacious house, in Royal street, between Toulouse and St. Louis streets, lately occupied by Messrs. G. Johnston & S. Livermore: desirable residence for large family or as a boarding house; having a very large airy and well paved yard, with stores, offices, etc., of the most convenient kind.

Act of March 1st, 1819
Passed before Marc Lafitte
Sale of property of the late Mr. Merieult
To Mr. Jean Lanna.

Before Marc Lafitte Notary Public commissioned for the city and parish of New Orleans, second Senatorial District of the State of Louisiana there residing and in the presence of witnesses hereinafter named and undersigned-
Appeared:-

Mr. Francois Dutillet, residing in this city, public auctioneer duly commissioned for the city and parish of New Orleans:

Dame Catherine Macnamara wife and widow of Mr. Jean Francois Merieult, residing in this city, stipulating to the present act in the name of and as Testamentary Executrix of the said Mr. Jean Merieult her husband, called to the charge of the conditions of his sealed Testament under date of the 28th. of August 1815 duly confirmed.

And Mr. Laurent Millaudon and Mr. Amede Longer proprietor and traders residing in this city stipulating to the present act in the name of and as syndic of the creditors of the said Mr. Jean Francois Merieult called to the said charge by the creditors, present or represented pursuant to act of reunion and deliberation under dates of the 28th. and 29th. of December last duly confirmed.

It has been said by Mr. Francois Dutillet as Auctioneer, that by requisition of Dame Catherine Macnamara, Widow Merieult and Messrs. Laurent Millaudon and Amede Longer in their respective rank and in conformity to the judgment rendered by the District Court of New Orleans under date of-----and after the publication and public notices in two Gazettes which are printed in this City, in two languages as for the denomination of COUPRIER DE LA LOUISIANE, and-----and which were periodically given since the 18th. of January until----the 15th. of last February.

(Blank spaces are as shown in original document).

A land situated in this city of 63 french feet front on Royal street by a depth of 150 feet, having a supplementary land depending upon it fronting Toulouse street which land has 20 feet front by 60 feet deep; on the front of the said principal land facing Royal Street there is a two story brick house covered with tiles, together with all the store houses of all kinds which the land consists of, such as it is found and composed without reserve or exception; circumstances and dependences, servitudes for loading and unloading.

The first bidding began with an offer of \$20,000.00 and followed by numerous bids for a larger amount up to \$37,150.00 which was placed and accepted by the said Mr. Jean Lanna of this city. This last offer was not covered by a higher bidder. The said Mr. Francois Dutillet, Auctioneer awarded to the said

Mr. Jean Lanna the property which is the object of the present sale as was accepted for the amount of \$47,150.00.

The present property adjudged and sold was part of the property relinquished by the said Mr. Jean Francois Merieult at his death who primarily acquired the first and principal lot of ground facing on Royal street and which has 60 feet frontage by a depth of 120 feet, at the public sale of the property of the succeseion of Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas, by the diligence of Mr. Francois Broutin, Notary, in this city under date of the 25 of April 1792 by title represented here and the other portions of the same property is part of another land he acquired from Mr. Jean Baptiste Poeyfarre by act passed before Mr. Pierre Pedesclaux, a Notary alive in this city under date of the 2nd. of July-1796 and from Mr. Felix de Materre, by act passed by Mr. Carlos Ximenes, Notary, under date of the 6th. of July 1798, the titles of which are likewise represented.

Done and passed in the city of New Orleans in the office and signed by all contracting parties and appearers, in the house which is the object of these presente the 1st of March-1819; the 43rd. year of the Independence of the United States of America, in the presence of Messrs. Jean Louis Francoie Chatry and Jacques Joly, residing witnesses, who signed with the contracting parties, appearers and the Notary Public undersigned after reading.

Jn. Lanna.
A. Longer
Chatry
Jques. Joly.

J. Dutillet.
Vve. Merieult.
L. Millaudon.

Mc. Lafitte,
Notary Public.

HABS

LA

36 New York

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Acte 1 Mare-1819 de Marc. Lafitte, Notre Pub.,
 Vente Propriete de Feu Merieult
 S. Sieur Jean Lanna.

Par devant Marc Lafitte, Notaire Public commissionne pour la ville et paroisse de la Nouvelle Orleans, second district Senatorial de l'Etat de la Louisiane y demeurant et en presence des temoins, ci-apres nommes et soussignee Furent present:-

M. Francois Dutillet demeurant en cette ville, encanteur public, dument commissionne pour la ville et paroisse de la Nouvelle Orleans:-

Dame Catherine Macnamara epouse et veuve de M. Jean Francois Merieult., demeurant en cette ville, stipulante au present acte au nom et comme executrice testamentaire du dit Sieur Jean Merieult son mari, appelle a la dite charge par son testament mystique sous la date du vingt huit Aout mil huit cent quinze dument homologue:

Et M. Laurent Millaudon et Amede Longer, proprietaire et commercans demeurant en cette ville stipulant au present acte au nom et comme syndics des creanciers du dit Sieur Jean Francois Merieult appellees a la dite charge par les creanciers presene ou representes-suyant acte de reunion et deliberation sous les dates des vingt huit et vingt neuf Decembre dernier dument homologue.

Il a ete dit par le Sieur Francois Sutillet, en sa qualite, qu'a la requisition de Dame Catherine Macnamara, Vve. Merieult et MM. Laurent Millaudon et Amede Longer en leurs qualites respectives et en conformite du jugement rendu en la cour de paroisse de la Nouvelle Orleans sous la date du..... et apres publications et annonces publiques dans deux Gazettes qui s'impriment en cette ville et dans deux langues comme la Louisiane et..... et qui ont ete... periodiquement donnees depuis le dix huit Janvier jusqu'au... quinze Fevrier dernier.

(Blank spaces are as shown in original document).

Un terrain situe en cette ville ayant soixante trois pieds francais de face a la rue Royale sur une profondeur de cent cinquante pieds, avec un eupplement de terrain qui en depend faisant face a la rue Toulouse sur laquelle il a vingt pieds sur une profondeur de soixante pieds; sur la facade duquel principalement terrain; donnent sur la rue Royale, il existe une maison en brique et a etage convertie en tuiles, ensemble tous magasins de toute nature qui comporte le dit terrain, tel que le tout se poursuit et comporte sane en rien reserver ni excepter; circonstances et dependances, servitudes a charge et decharge.

Et la premiere enchere ouverte sur la somme de vingt mille piastres a ete successivement couverte par d'autre encheres d'une plus forte valeur jusqu'a celle de trente sept mille cent cinquante piastres mise et etabli par le Sieur Jean Lanna de ville, laquelle n'ayant pas ete couverte par aucune nouvelle enchere et le dit Jean Lanna etant en consequence reconnu pour le plus haut et dernier encherisseur, le dit Sieur Francois Dutillet en sa dite qualite

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d'enchanteur a adjuge au dit Sieur Jean Lanna la propriete qui es l'objet de la presente vente telle qu'elle a ete etabli pour la ditte somme de Trente sept mille cent cinquante piastres.

La presente propriete adjugee et vendu fait partie des biens delaisse par le dit Sieur Jean Francois Merieult a son deces qui premierement a acquis le premier et principal terrain donnant sur la rue Royal et qui a soixante pieds de face sur une profondeur de cent vingt pieds a la vente public des biens de la succession de Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas, a la diligence de Mr. Francois Broutin, Notaire en cette ville, sous la date du vingt cinq Avril mil sept cent quatre vingt douze, suivant titre ici represente et les autres portions de la meme propriete comme faisant partie d'autres terrain qu'il a acquis de M. Jean Baptiste Poeyfarre par acte devant M. Pierre Pedesclaux de son vivant Notaire en cette ville sous la date du deux Juillet mil sept cent quatre vingt seize et de M. Felix de Materre, pas acte reçu par m. Carlos Ximenes, notaire de son vivant, sous la dite du six Juillet mil sept cent quatre vingt dix huit, dont les titres sont parellement representes.

Fait et passe en la Nouvelle Orleans en l'Etude et signe par toutes les parties contractantes et comparantes, en la maison qui fait l'objets des presentes le premier Mars mil huit cent dix neuf, l'an quarante trois de l'indépendance des Etats Unis d'Amerique, en presence de MM. Jean Louis Francois Chatry et Jacques Joly, temoins domicilies qui ont signe avec les parties contractantes, comparantes et le Notaire public soussigne apres lecture faite.

Jn. Lanna
A. Longer
Chatry
Jques.Joly

J. Dutillet
Vve. Merieult
L. Millaudon

Mc. Lafitte,
Notaire Public.

HABS

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SUCCESSION OF JEAN FRANCOIS MERIEULT

NEW ORLEANS PROBATE COURT - 1818

Petition to take Inventory, filed July 28, 1818, shows petitioner to be Marguerite (changed to Catherine) Macnamara Merieult.

Petition to appoint curator for the minor Euphrosine, filed July 28, 1818, by petitioner Marguerite (changed to Catherine) Macnamara Merieult.

Petition to prove up will filed July 24, 1818, by petitioner Marguerite (changed to Catherine) Macnamara Merieult.

Petition for letters testamentary filed October 28, 1818 by Catherine Macnamara Merieult.

Letters testamentary issued October 28, 1818 to Catherine Macnamara Merieult.

MERIEULT

ST. LOUIS #1

Don Juan Francisco
native of France
Husband of Dona Catarina
Carlota Macnamara
Son of Don Carlos Merieult
and Dona Mariana Baibin
Died July 14 - 1818
Age 89

From the Index of Cemeteries, La. Hist. So. Library

Succession of
John F. Merieult

Ne Varietur, signed J.Pitot Judge.

John Francois Merieult,

Before Michel de Armas, notary public at the residence of New Orleans State of Louisiana United States of America, and in presence of seven witnesses hereafter named and undersigned.

Was present Mr. Jean francois Merieult, merchant resident of this City who submitted to the said notary and witnesses a paper which he declared containing the duplicate of his testament which he had the undersigned notary write but which he signed with his own hand. In consequence the said notary prepared this act of subscription on the said paper which was signed by Messrs. Jean Roques, Jean Blanque, Nicholas Lauve, R.D. Shepherd. Jn. Bte. Soraparu, P.F. Dubourg and Amedee Longer, All seven witnesses requested for this specific purpose domiciled in this City all of which was done as result of the above without diverting to other acte.

Done at New Orleans the twenty ninth day of August in the year Eighteen hundred fifteen the fortieth year of the American Independence.

Signed John F. Merieult

Signed:- R.D. Shepherd, Nlas, Lauve, Jn. Soraparu, Jn.Blanque, Jn.Roques, P.F.Dubourg, A Longer, Michel de Armas not.pub.

Ne Varietur

Signed J.Pitot Judge.

Ne Varietur Signe J. Pitot, judge.-

Ceci est mon testament

Je soussigne, Jean francois Merieult, fils legitime de feus Mr.Charles Merieult et Madame Marie Anne Boivin, son epouse, mes pere et mere natif de la paroisse de notre dame de torpt, en normandie, en france negociant a la nouvelle orleans, etant sur le point d'entreprendre un voyage pour l'europe a l'effet de ramener ma famille dans son pays natal, me trouvant, par la grace de dieu sain de corps et d'esprit, et desirant, avant ma mort, declarer mes dernieres volontee jai fait et dicte mon present testament a Mr.Michel de Armas notaire public en cette ville, qui la ecrite de sa main, ainsi quil sait.

Je recommande mon ame a dieu, et le prie de vouloir bien m'accorder le represente le plus sincere de mes peches, Je declare etre legitiment marie avec madame marguerite Macnamara, mon epouse fille legitime de feu

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Mr. Patrick Macnamara et madame marguerite Chauvin Desillet son epouse, les Pere et mere, ma dite epouse etant de present a paris, en france. Je declare que de mon dit mariage, j'ai actuellement vivans trois enfans nommes Catherine Mathilde Merieult, agee de dix neuf ans, Charles Merieult de seize ans et Euphrosine Merieult de quinze ans lesquels sont aupres de leur mere Je declare que mon contrat de mariage avec ma dite epouse passe le seize novembre mil sept cent quatre vingt onze, devant Carlos Ximines, alors notaire public en cette ville; il appert que l'apport de ma dite consistait;

1. en une somme de quinze cents piastres montant de la dot constituee en sa faveur par le Sieur francois Siben, alors epoux de la Dame Marguerite Chauvin Desillet conjointement avec cette derniere.
2. en une somme de quatre mille quarante six piastres dont elle a herite du chef du dit feu Sieur Patrick Macnamara son pere et
3. et enfin de la somme de trois mille piastres dont j'ai dotee a ma dite epouse, la quelle somme formant le dixieme de la somme de trente mille piastres montant de la valeur estimative des biens que je possedais a l'epoque de mon dit mariage-

Je declare que posterieurement a mon dit mariage et depuis que Damcees ma dite epousee a herite de sa dit defunte mere madame Marguerite Chauvin Desillet, veuve en premiere nocces de deu Mr. Patrick Macnamara et decedee epouse de Mr. francois Siben, d'une somme de vingt neuf mille trois cent trente et une piastres et sept cents y compris la somme de six mille neuf cent quatre vingt treize piastres et quatre vingt deux cents due par Mr. Salomon Prevost, habitant domicile dans la paroisse D'Orleans dans cet etat de la Louieiane, de laquelle derniere donne, je nai pu just qu'a ce jour affecter le recouvrement, le payement en Etant d'aillieure assure, autant que possible au moyen d'une hypothèque consentie par mon dit Sieur Prevost sui ant actes devant le dit notaire Mr. Michel de Annas.

J'institue pour mes heritiers, chacun par Egale portion, dand touse mes biens meubles et immeubles, tous aux de mes enfans qui se trouveront vivans au jour de mon deces.

Je confirme la tutelle de mes enfans mineurs que la loi defere a ma dite epouse, qui depuis vingt quatre que dure notre union n'a cesse de me donner des preuves que je ne pouvais faire un meilleur choix. Je nomme pour executeur de mon present testament ma dite epouse et dans le cas ou je viendrais a decider avant son retour en cette ville je nomme mon parent Mr. Jacques francois Livaudais fils, habitant domicilie dans cette paroisse D'Orleans, pour agir provisoirement comme mon Executeur testamentaire, jusqu'a l'arrivee de mon epouse ici, et a default de mon dit Sieur Livaudais, je nomme au meme effet Mr. Pierre foucher aussi habitant domicilie dans cette Paroisse D'Orleans voulant que dans le cas ci-dessus prevu mon deces avant le retour ici de mon epouse Mon dit Sieur Livaudais ou a default, mon dit sieur foucher apres avoir fait ordonner l'execution de mon present testament, fasse approuver, par un notaire de son choix, les scelles sur les bureaux et coffres contenant mes livres et papiers de commerce qui leur feront deseques par Messrs. Laurant Millaudon et Jean Lanna que je laisse charges de mes affaires lee quels scelles ma dite epouse

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seule aura la faculté, a son arrivée ici de faire lever sans aucune formalité:

Dans le cas ou ma dite épouse viendrait a me precéder, je nomme et pour tuterer de mes enfans mineurs et pour mon executeur Testamentaire mon dit sieur Jacques francois Livaudais, fils et a son default mon dit sieur Pierre foucher que je prie de me donner cette double preuve D'Amitiee.

j'autorise la personne qui d'apres les dispositions qui precedent, sera chargée de l'execution de mon present testament a agir dans tout oe qui sera relatif a ma succession sans intervention de justice autant que faire le pourra.-

J'annulle et revoque tous les testaments et codiciles que je puis avoir fait avant le present auquel seul je m'arrente comme contenant mes dernieres volentes-

Enfin foi dequoi j'ai signe mon present testament, fait a la Nouvelle-Orleans, ce jourd'hier vingt trois Aout Mil huit cent quinze, Signe

Jean F. Merieult,
NE VARIETUR, signe
Js. Pitot, Juge.

Succession of
John F. Merieult

Filed in New Orleans Probates Court, 1818,
Will is recorded in Will Book 3, page 61,
Inventory was made by and passed before Michel
de Armas, Notary Public, July 28, 1818

Ne Varietur signed Jn.Pitot Judge.

This is my testament,

I undersigned, Jean francois Merieult, legitimate son of late Mr. Charles Merieult and Mrs. Marie Anne Boivin, his wife, my father and mother, natives of the parish of Lady of torpt, in Normandy in France, merchant in New Orleans being about to undertake a voyage to Europe for the purpose of bringing back my family, to their native country,

Finding myself, by the grace of God sane of body and of mind, and desiring, before my death to declare my last wishes I made and dictated my present testament to Mr. Michel de Armas notary public in this City who wrote it with his hand, as follows:-

I implore the protection of God for my soul, and pray to him for repentence, most sincere for my sins, I declare being legitimately married to Mrs. Marguerite Macnamara, my wife legitimate daughter of late Mr. Patrick Macnamara and Mrs. Marguerite Chauvin Desillet his wife, the father and mother of my said wife being at present in Paris France.-

I declare that from my wedlock I actually have three living children named Catherine Mathilde Merieult, nineteen years of age, Charles Merieult sixteen years of age and Euphrosine Merieult fifteen years of age who are with their mother.

I declare that my marriage contract with my said wife, dated November sixteenth seventeen hundred ninety one before Carlos Ximines then notary public of this City, it appears that the dowry of my said wife consisted of:-

1. Fifteen hundred piastres dowry made up in her favor by Mr.Francois Siben, then husband of Mrs. Marguerite Chauvin Desillet co-jointly with her,-
 2. The sum of four thousand forty six piastres which she inherited from the head of the family late Mr. Patrick Macnamara,her father,
 3. and finally the sum of three thousand piastres which I endowed her which said amount was one tenth of the sum of thirty thousand piastres estimated value of the property I possessed at the time of my marriage,-
- I declare that subsequently to my said marriage and since then that Damcees, my said wife inherited from her deceased mother, Mrs.Marguerite

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Chauvin Desillet, widow by first marriage of late Mr. Patrick Macnamara and deceased wife of Mr. Francois Siben, a sum of twenty nine thousand three hundred thirty one piastres and seven cents including the sum of six thousand nine hundred ninety three piastres eighty two cents due by Mrs. Salomon Prevost, inhabitant residing in the parish of Orleans, in this state of Louisiana, of which last amount I have to this present day been unable to recover the payment being nevertheless assured as much as possible by means of a mortgage given by the said Mr. Prevost, according to act before Mr. Michel de Armas.-

I name as my heirs, each share and share alike all my belongings movables and immovables all to my children then alive the day of my death.-

I confirm the guardianship of my minor children as bestowed by law on my wife who for the twenty four years of our union has never ceased to give me proofs that I could not have made a better choice,- I name as executor of my present testament my said wife, and in the event that I should die before her return to this City, I name my relative Mr. Jacques francois Livaudais son, inhabitant residing in the parish of Orleans, to act temporarily as my Testamentary Executor, until the arrival here of my wife, and in default of the said Mr. Livaudais I name to the same capacity Mr. Pierre foucher also resident, domiciled in the parish of Orleans, wanting that in the event of my death before the return here of my said wife the said Mr. Livaudais or in his default of the said Mr. foucher after having ordered my present testament probated, have a notary of his choice place seals on my desks and safes containing my books and papers pertaining to business to be analysed by Messrs. Laurant Millaudon and Jean Lanna that I name in charge of my affairs which seals my said wife alone will have the authority, at her arrival to have removed without any formality.-

In the event my wife should precede me in death I name as tutor for my minor children and as Testamentary Executor the said Mr. Jacques francois Livaudais, son and in his default my said Mr. Pierre foucher whom I pray to give me this double proof of friendship,- I authorized the person who according to the preceding stipulations will have charge of the fulfilment of my present testament, to act as much as possible without legal proceedings,-

I annul and revoke all testaments and codicils that I may have made previously the present one containing my last wishes.-

As such I signed my present testament made in New Orleans, yesterday twenty third day of August Eighteen hundred fifteen.

Jean F. Merieult

Ne Varietur, signed J. Pitot.

527-533 ROYAL ST.

Act of Public Sale, dated April 25, 1792, before Francie Broutin, Notary Public, page #86, Suit #63, Book 1791-part 2,
Being a sale of property by the Succeseion of Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas to Jean Francois Merieult.

In the City of New Orleans, on this the 25th day of April 1792, I, the below named Notary Public, by virtue of a commission previously issued to me, proceeded to the customary place of Public Sale, and in the presence of Don Antonio Mendez, representative of the absent heirs of the deceased Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas, and Don Felipe Guinault, attorney-in-fact for Don Andres Armesto, testamentary executor of the Succession of the said Don Pedro Arragon Villegas, and did call out in a loud public voice, for sale, the property belonging to the Succeseion of the said Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas, inviting whomever might wish to bid upon the various pieces of property belonging to the deceased and situated in this city.

I further called out that the succeseful bidder or bidders would be required to pay one-third of the purchase price in cash, and the other two-thirds in one year from date, giving faithful bond for the latter amounts;

And then appeared Don Juan Francois Merieult and paid his amount of money for the lot situated on Royal street, 60' front by 150' in depth, and bounded on one side by the property of Don Pablo Segond and on the other by that of Don Juan Bautista Poyafarre, and since his was the highest bid received, the said lot was adjudicated to him for the sum of \$1,610.00.

I therefore, etated in a loud voice that since there was no one else who desired to pay more for the said lot of ground situated on Royal street, bounded on one side by the property of Don Pablo Segond, and on the other by that of Don Juan Bautista Poyafarre, then the said \$1,610.00. I declared the said sale to be good and valid.

All of which was accepted and verified by the purchasers herein, who obligated themselves to comply with all the conditions of said sale and who signed the same together with the above named representative and attorney-in-fact, to all of which, I, Notary give faith.

Antonio Mendez

Felipe Guinault

Bartholome Bosque

J.F. Merieult,

Before:

Francisoo Broutin,
Notary Public.

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527-533 ROYAL ST.

Act of Public Sale, dated April 25, 1792, before Francis Broutin, Notary Public page #86, Suit #63, Book 1791- part of 2,
Being a sale of property by the Succession of Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas to Jean Francois Merieult.

En la Ciudad de La Nueva Orleans a veinte de cinco de abril de mil setecientos noventa y dos anos, Yo el escrivano en virtud de la commission a me conferida por el decreto antecedente estando en el parage acostumbrada para celebrar las ventas y remates, presente Don Antonio Mendez, defensor de los herederos ausente del difunto Don Pedro Arragon y Villegas, y Don Felipe Guinault, apoderado de Don Andres Armesto, su Alpacea Testimonio, hice pregonar por voz del pregonero publico, los bienes que dados por fallecimiento del ante dicho, diciendo quisiera hacer postura a diferentes terrenos situados en esta dicha ciudad, paresca que se la admitira la que hiciere y se ha de rematar en la persona quien mas diere, pagando su imposte, una parte de contado, y las otras doe dentro de un ano, donde fiadaz abonado, y en este estado parecio

Don Juan Francisco Merieult a hiro postura a otro terrano situado en la calle real, de sesenta pies de frente y ciento y cincuenta de fondo, lindando por un lado, con terreno de Don Pablo Segond, y por el otro, con otro terreno de Don Juan Bautista Poyafarre y como mayor postor, se le adjudico en el cantidad de un mil seiscientos y dies pesos y se mando pregonar - \$1,610.00.

Y. en este Estado mande a vivir la voz al pregon, diciendo pues que no hay quien pude ni de mas por el terreno de la calle real, lindando por un lado, con terreno de Don Pablo Segond, y por el otro, con otros de Don Juan Bautista Poyafarre que mil seiscientos y dies pesos; que la dicha venta es buena y valido, con la qual quedo verificado este remate y los rematadores, se obligaron a cumplir con los condiciones de el, y lo firmaron los que supieron con dicha defensor y apoderado. de todo lo qual doy fe.

Anto Mendez

Felipe Guinault

Barte Bosque

J.F.Merieult.

Anterior:
Franco Broutin,
Esno.Pubco.

Marriage Contract between Juan Francisco Merieult and
Dona Catarina Macnamara, passed before Carlos Ximines, Notary Public,
on November 16, 1791.

DOWERY ACT

In the name of the Holy Trinity, Amen. Be it known that I, Don Juan Francisco Merieult, a resident and merchant of the City of New Orleans, and a member of the parish de Dona Senora de Terpt, in the province of Normandie, in the kingdom of France, a legitimate son of Don Carlos (Merieult) and Dona Mariana Boivin, and in order to better serve Our Lord and His Sacred Mother, I have contemplated marriage with Dona Catarina de Macnamara, a resident of this city, legitimate daughter of Don Patricio and Dona Margarita Dessilet, which act of marriage we expect to celebrate as soon as possible, and as the said Dona Catarina, my future wife, has, as her personal dowery, the sum of five thousand five hundred and forty-six pesos and four reales, which she brings into this marriage in the manner which will be explained, and it being incumbent to draw up the necessary document which will verify this at all times so that there be evidence of same, as much for a complete accounting as for the surety of proper consequences which engender justice, tranquility, and peace for married couples, I declare by these presents as follows:

That in virtue of the marriage which I am about to contract with the said Dona Catarina, I have received, as her own separate and paraphernal property, from Dona Margarita Dessilet, her mother, and Don Francisco Siben, her step-father, the sum of five thousand five hundred and forty-six pesos and four reales in the following manner: the sum of four thousand and forty-six pesos and four reales in cash money, which sum belongs to my said future wife as her legal and paternal right upon the death of Don Patricio de Macnamara, her father, according to the inventory taken in these archives, and the deed of imposition (trust) made out in her favor by the aforesaid (Francisco and Margarita Dessilet) before the present notary public on April 28, of the present year; and the sum of one thousand five hundred pesos remaining, which the said Dona Margarita and the said Don Francisco, her consort, have given to the said Dona Catarina in the value of three slaves names, Henrietta, fifteen years of age; Victual Penda, eighteen years of age; and Zair, about twenty years of age; furniture, jewels, and clothing for her use; all of which I acknowledge having received to my entire satisfaction. I renounce not having been present (at the presentation), and laws pertaining to the same, that of the non numerata pecunia, those of the things not seen nor received, fraud, and others pertaining thereto, for which I issue a formal receipt. In consequence of which I have offered to give Dona Catarina, my future wife, as a dowery,

in contemplation of our marriage and in consideration of her virginity, the amount of three thousand pesos, which I declare that I have assigned and set over to her upon the most secure and most valuable of my property, so that she may immediately enjoy the privilege of a preferred and recognized dowery, which by right and in fact has the same force as the five thousand five hundred and forty-six pesos and four reales hereinabove mentioned, declaring, as I do declare, that the said three thousand pesos very well comprise about one-tenth part of my free property, and I effectively obligate myself to enter into said marriage shortly, and to the payment and restoration of it (the dowery) together with the five thousand five hundred and forty-six pesos and four reales already mentioned, in the event it is dissolved by death, divorce, or other causes permitted by law, by which we will wish executed extrajudicially, which will be the legal right, in which case I augment said sum to eight thousand five hundred and forty-six pesos and four reales, having totalled the three mentioned amounts. I will not subordinate or oppose same, as I declare no debts, crimes or other transgressions have happened to me, but from now until such a time may arise, if it should occur, I shall relinquish the whole amount from my property to another fund which will go to my said future wife, to which I will not make an exception in my favor in order that I may lay claim to same, nothing more or less upon this particular. I have not authorized protests or other legal acts by which I may revoke, or avail myself of the penalty of perjury and others contrary to law, upon which I would not wish to be heard in justice if I should deviate therefrom; in case of a lawsuit, I declare that I will not compete and I obligate my person and my property, present and future. I hereby insert the warranty clause, power, and submission of justice, of whatever statue it may be, and I renounce the laws, rights, and privileges in my favor in the general form which may prohibit it.

In testimony of which this act is executed in the City of New Orleans, on November 16, 1791. I, the notary, certify that I know the greater herein, and he signed with the witness present, Don Francisco de Sales Badillo, Don Antonio Rodriguez, and Don Juan Bautista Orso.

J. F. MERIEULT

BEFORE ME,

CARLOS KIMNES,

Notary Public.

Marriage Contract betwsen Juan Francisco Merieult and Dona
Catarina Macnamara, passed before Carlos Ximines, Notary Public,
Nov. 16, 1791:

Carta de Dote)	En el nombre de la Santissima Trinidad, Amen:
)	Separe que yo Dn. Juan Francisco Merieult, vacino,
Nota)	y del comercio de esta ciudad de la Nueve Orleans,
Que se Copia)	natural de la Parroquia de Dona Senora de Terpt,
en Cinco S	*)	Provincia de Nermandia, en el Reyno del Francia,
		hiño legitimo de Dn. Carlos y de Dona Mariana

Boivin; que para mas bien servir a Dios Nuestro Senor, y a su Santissima Madre, he tratado contraer matrimonio con Dona Catarina de Macnamara, natural de esta dicha ciudad: Nija legitima de Don Patricio, y Dona Margarita Dsssilet, el quel matrimonio hemos de reducir a efecto con la mayor anticipacion que sea posible y como quiera que la suso dicha Dona Catarina, mi futura Esposa, tiene por sus bienes Dotales la cantidad de cinco mil quinientos quarenta y seis pesos quatro reales, que aparta a dicho matrimonio en el modo que se explicara, y siendo indispensable formalizer correspondients instrumento que los acredite en todo tiempo, asi pare que halla cuenta cabal, como pare que surta los buenos afectos que desea el derecho, la tranquilidad y pas en los Casados, etorgo por la presente, y como mas haya lugar: Que en virtud del matrimonio que hs de contraer con la sure dicha Dona Catarina, he recibido por caudal propio perteniente la misma, de Dona Margarita Dassilet su madre, y de Don Francisco Aben su padraete los expresada cantidad de cinco mil quinientos quarenta y seis pesos y quatro reales en esta manera; Los quatro mil quarsnta y seis pesos y quatro reales en dinero efectivo, cuya suma le correspondie a la mencionada mi Esposa de legitima y haber paterno, por muerte de Don Patricio de Macnamara su padre, segun los Autos de Inventario, actuados en acte Archivo, y Escritura de Imposicion etorgada a su favor por los ants dichos, ante el presente Escribano a los veinte y ocho de Abril de este Ano; y los mil y quinientos rstantes, que por la misma Dona Margarita, y el expresado Don Francisco su consorte, se han donado a la propio Dona Catarina, en el importe de tres esclavas, nombradas Henriette, de quince anos, Victual Penda, de diss y ocho, y Zair, como de veinte: Alajas, Prendas, y Ropa de su uso: de todo la qual, me doy por entresado a mi entera satisfaccion, renuncio por no ser ds presente, y leyes de ella, las ds la non numerata pecunia, las de la cosa no vista, no recibida dole y damas ds el caso, de que otorgo formal recibido y por quante he ofricido a la nominada Dona Catarina, ma futura Esposa, dar en arras propter Nupcias y en obsequio de su virginidad la cantidad de tres mil pesos, declaro, que se los senalo, y con signo, sobre lo mas segura, y bien parado de todos mis bienes, para que desde luego opsendel privilegio y antelacion de dote conocido, por derecho y en este parte tengan la misma fuerza de los cinco mil, quinientos cuarenta y seis pesos, cuator reales anteriormente explicados, declarando, segun lo haga, que dichos tres mil pesos caben mui bien en la Dezima parte de los bienss libres, que de presente tengo y posse: y me obligo efactual qus searro matrimonio, a la paga, y restitution de allos, con las cinco mil quinientos quarenta y seis pesos, quatro reales ya recitados, siempre

que sea dissuelto por muertr, divorcio, e otro caso de los permitidos por derecho, ya que quiere ser executado con el juramente, de quien sea parte lexma, en quien le difiero: cuya suma de echo mil, quinientos cuarenta y seis pesos cuatro reales, ha que ascienden las tres partidas relacionados no sugetare ni obligare como desde este acte lo declare, a mie deudas, crimines, ni exesos, que puedan resultarme, pues desde aora, para quando llegue el caeo, si aconteziere ceparo la citado cantidad del cuerpo de mie bienes, por caudal ageno propio, y perteneciente a la nominada mi futura Esposa, y en lo que no pendre exception de mi favor para que no la tengo, ni menos sobre el particular, he otorgado pretexta, ni otra diligencia de derecho, la que reveco, y doy per nula, vale la pena de perjuro, y demas que arbitren, las leyes; y sobre que quiero no ser cydo en juscio me fuera de el come quien intenta accion que no le compete; a cuya firmara y seguridad, obligo mi pereona y bienes, havidos y por aver, con cleusula quarentigio contrato executorio, poderio y Suma de Justicias, de qualesquiera parte que sean, y renunciacion de leyes, fueros y privilehios, de mi favor y defama con la general en forma que lo prehive; En cuyo testimonio es fecha la carta en la ciudad de la Nueva Orleans a dies y seis de Noviembre de mil settecientos noventa y una, Yo, el Euno, doy fe conosco al otorgante que asi lo dixo otorgo, y firmo, siendo testigos, Don Francisco de sales Badillo, Don Antonio Rodriguez, y Don Juan Bautista Orzo, vacinos y presentes.

J.F. Merieult

Anterior:

Carlos Ximines,
Esno. Pubco.

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36 New Orleans

Hammond, La.
July 14, 1938.

32.

Works Progress Administration of La.
Mr. Chester H. Wicker

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter dated July 12 will endeavor to give you some information regarding 527-31 Royal and 718 Toulouse St. I do this with great pleasure, as I can say the happiest days of my life were spent in the old Vieux Carre. To begin with it was about the years 1878 when my parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Trapolin, now both deceased, purchased the old building from Mr. and Mrs. Donflue, an old couple from France, who were disposing of all their interests to spend the last days of their life in their old home in Europe. We owned the Royal St. property all these years, until it was sold in the Spring of this year.

"The Royal House", as it was named, being opposite the Royal Hotel or old St. Louis Hotel. While running the hotel, we had stopping with us many noted people, foreign counsels, senators, lawyers, and wealthy cotton and sugar planters. We were also surrounded by old Creole families, such as the Bechets, Brulatours, Lamberts etc. & etc. We would often go to the receptions given at the St. Louis Hotel. Then we had the old French Opera House, which also brings tender memories of wonderful musical talent, and during intermissions, or "Entre Actes" as they were termed those days - where one met old friends, in the old "Parloir", or "Lodge de familles", where there was a "Ladies Bar", where cooling drinks were served.

In regard to Toulouse St. Property - or alley which joined the Royal St. House - was originally horse stables, presumably built for Gov. Miro. They were afterwards converted to warehouses for T. Moreau, a novelty importer - running an establishment on corner Royal and Toulouse Sts. Afterwards the "Damiens" were successor to T. Moreau, a Frenchman. The Damiens conducted the store for years. My father then bought the place around 1888 to build a private home for his family, where we resided for years. We then sold the place to a French importer of scandals. One of the great attractions was the stairway, where Hovey King's perfume shop is now located. An arcade of fifty feet in length led to winding white marble steps. The other adjoining steps, alternating one walnut, the other oak. All this was taken down to modernize the building. Well, writing these few lines, feels like opening an old book, and dream again of days when the echo of horses hoofs on the cobblestones, were swell sounds to hear. Very truly yours,
Mrs. W.F. Dewhirst.

EXCERPT FROM AD, TO LET, IN THE COURRIER OF MAY 17, 1826;
CITY HALL ARCHIVES

BUILDING (Store):

A store situated in Royal street, between St.Louis and
Toulouse streets.

EXCERPT FROM FOR SALE ADD IN THE COURRIER OF AUG. 15, 1810;
CITY HALL ARCHIVES.

DWELLING HOUSE:

Situated in Royal street, number 22, formerly occupied
by Mr. J.F. Merieult. This is a very handsome and commodious
house, the lot upon which it is erected measures 60 feet front
by 130 feet in depth.

The adjoining lot at the corner of Royal and Toulouse streets,
measuring 60 feet front on the former by 150 feet on the latter.

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NAMES IN DIRECTORIES:

LAURENT MILLAUDON

1822:

Millaudon Laurent, merchant, 51 Royal

1830:

Millaudon, Laurent, merchant, 149 Royal

1832:

Millaudon, S. merchant, St.Louis between Chartres & Levee (No Laurant)

1834:

Millaudon, Laurent, com.merchant, 132 & 139 Bourbon, distillery,
New Levee c. Richard.

1841:

Millaudon, Laurent, commission merchant, 144 Bourbon.

1842:

Millaudon, Laurent, commission merchant, 136 Bourbon.

1849:

Millaudon, Laurent, merchant, 136 Bourbon.

1851:

Millaudon, Laurent, merchant, 117 Toulouse.

JEAN LANNA

1830:

Lanna, Jean, merchant, 12 St.Ann, d. 88 St.Philip

1805:

Lanna, Jean, 10 Levee sur le bord du fleuve

JEAN FRANCOIS MERIEULT

Census of New Orleans, 1791;

Jean Francois Merieult, Chartres st. (Copied from the list in the
(La. Hist. So.files). This spelling does not appear anywhere else.

1805:

Merieult, John F. 22 Rue Royal St.

1822:

Merieult, Charles. gentleman, suburb Annunciation.

1824:

(Merieult does not appear.)

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NAMES IN DIRECTORIES:

JEAN FRANCOIS MERIEULT (continued)

1830:

Merieult, Charles, 214 Levee

Merieult, Mde.widow, 214 Levee

1832:

Merieult, Mad. Widow, 214 Levee

Merieult, Charles 214 Levee

Merieult, J.B. Widow, Casa Calvo

(Repeated in 1834)

1838:

(Merieult does not appear)

1842:

Merieult, Widow, Levee bet. Port & Engheim streets

1849:

(Merieult does not appear)

THEODORE DANFLOUS

1849 & 1851:

Dan flous Theodore, saddle & harness maker, 149 Royal

1857:

Danflous Theodore, saddler, 149 Royal

FRANCISCO GARCIA Y BARRAS AND JOSE GARCIA Y BARRAS

1851:

Garcia, Francois, keeper state arsenal, Orleans, d. 241 Trame

Garcia, Jose c. barracks and Burgundy

1870:

Garcia, y Boras Francis, clk. Garcia y Mora, r. Bienville cor. Exchange al.

Garcia, y Joseph, clk. Garcia y Mora, r. Bienville cor. Exchange al.

JUAN GARCIA Y MORA

1870:

Garcia, y Mora, cigars and Louisiana Lottery, Customhouse, cor. Exchange al.
r. Bienville cor. Exchange al.

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NAMES IN DIRECTORIES:

LIZARDI BROTHERS

1832:

Lizardi Brothers, merchants, 19 Toulouse

1834:

Lizardi, Hermanos, com.merchants, 153 Royal

1838:

De Lizardi, M. and Co. mts. 149 Royal

1841:

Lizardi Francisco and Co. commission merchants, 56 Bienville c. Exchange Alley

1842:

Lizardi, Feo. de & co. commission merchants, 52 Bienville st.

1849:

Lizardi, Juan A. ws. 123 Elysian Fields

Repeated in 1851)

1857:

(Lizardi does not appear.)

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From Cabildo Records:

LANNA, JUAN

(W)

32.

Year 1805, census of the City of New Orleans lists him as a resident of #10 South Levee Street.
 Year 1784, Sp. Doc. #953, Box #52.
 Second boat swain on the frigate "San Pedro".
 March 28, 1792. Sp.Doc. #2900, Box #65.
 Case of Juan Lanna Versue Don Juan Baptiste Laurenaudiere.

PINTADO, DON VINCENTE

(W)

Resident of the District of Iberville.
 January 15, 1799, Sp.Doc. #3755, Box #80.
 Brother of: Antonio Pintado.
 Lieutenant Surveyor of the district of Iberville.

MORA, JUAN GARCIA

Merchant and resident of New Orleans.
 Year 1803, Bound book #4087, located in the second floor vault.
 Year 1780, Sp. File #3550.
 Year 1771, L.H.Q. Vol. 8 #1, P. 149.
 June 9, 1771, Sp. Doc. no number.
 Year 1770, F. 33, #D. 140.
 Year 1770, F. 10812.
 Year 1776, F. 45.
 Ship owner, paid one peso, the regular fee to have his boat pass St. John's Bayou Bridge en route to Bay St. Louis.
Husband of: Dona Estefania.
 Witness at the succeseion of Daniel Fagot de la Carciniere.
 Instituted proceedings versus Franco Raguet.
 Witness at a wedding.
 Year 1787, Sp.Doc. #1639, Box #49.
 Witness.

ARAGON, Y VILLEGAS PEDRO

Year 1788, Sp. Doc. #1806, Box #51.
 Petitioned the court alleging that petitioner had a contract with Don Rafael Perdomo, whereby the said Perdomo promised the petitioner to resign his position of Royal Clerk, Military and Civil Notary, and Register of wille, these positions to be relinquished in favor of petitioner and that defendant instead had relinquished the said positions in favor of Carlos Ximines, and that the defendant had acquired it from Don Andres Y Roxas, by virtue of relinquishment and purchase for a cash consideration of 2,000 pesos, and the said Almonester acquired it from Don Ignacio de Ayala. The plaintiff appealed the case to the Supreme Court of Appeals,

at Havana and this high tribunal rendered reversed judgment against the defendant. The appointment of the said Carlos Ximines was confirmed by a Royal Letter from His Majesty Charles IV.

Year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1820, F. 2385.

Year 1773, F. 830, F. 837, F. 878, F. 886, 845.

Year 1786, Sp.Doc. #1433, F. 2786.

Year 1787, Sp.Doc. #1518, Box #48.

Villegas witness.

Banker and merchant who financed the Royal Government in projects approved by his Majesty, administrator of the Education of the children and youth of this Province appointed to do so by the King.

Instituted proceedings versus Antonio Gabriel.

Year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1833, Box #51.

Instituted criminal proceedings versus Rafael Perdomo alleging that defendant had maliciously proceeded to his own interest in the testamentary execution of the deceased Bartholome Magnon, causing plaintiff a considerable loss.

Year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1854, Box #51.

Buyer at the auction sale of properties of the estate of Pierre Francisco Bidou Herbert, who died August 26, 1788.

Year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1878, Box #52.

A merchant of this city and legal agent of Don Manuel Nicholas Mongeti from Havana, Captain of his frigate named the "Sacred Heart of Jesus", petitioned the court alleging that his principal has ordered the petitioner to obtain certain copies of Royal decrees from the Royal Offices of this city, pertaining the transportation of tobacco in his frigate, from New Orleans to Vera Cruz, as ordered by the General Assessor, Don Martin Navarro. Other copy regarding the agreement between the authorities of New Orleans, and Don N. Diaz, also for the transportation of tobacco to same place in his bilander of which said Diaz was Captain.

Other copy regarding the wages and tonnage of the ships occupied by the intendancy of Louisiana, in the Royal Service during the last war; and the other copy regarding all the ships that were employed and anchored in the Mississippi river and rated in accordance with their tonnage at 12½ pesos per ton; all this information was registered in the office of the General Assessor of this Province.

In the meantime Don Manuel Nicholas Mongeti, thru his Attorney, Don Casimiro Galindo in Cuba, petitioned the court of Havana for the purpose of obtaining an increase in the rates at least at that paid by the Intendancy of Louisiana. Mongeti was granted his petition by the Chief Minister of the Navy of Havana, Don Domingo Hernani, also the Intendant General of the Army and the Royal Treasurer of that city, which was attested by the Court Clerk, Don Nicholas Frias; the following certified the signature of the Clerk, Don Francisco Xavier Rodriguez, Philip Alvarez, Public Notaries, and Don Gabriel Josef Alvarez. The power of Attorney, in favor of Aragon Y Villegas, was drawn at Havana, before the Public Notary, Francisco Xavier Rodriguez and the witnesses, Pablo Voldez, Matez Fernandez, Leal and Josef Nicholas Rodriguez, by Don Manuel Nicolas Mongeti. The signature of the Public Notary was counter-signed by Don Dionicio Ararjo Marcos Antonio Gamboa and Joseph Rodriguez. The cost of

Page 3.

this proceeding for the certificate asked by Aragon to be sent to Havana, amounted to 5 pesos, 5 reales, which were paid petitioner.

December year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1918, Box #52.

SEE FRANCISCO DE RIANO'S CARD.

January 16, 1789, Sp.Doc. #1974, Box #53.

Defendant in a suit instituted by Don Antonio Paloa and his wife

Dame Marianne St. Amand Paloa.

June 15, 1789, Sp.Doc. #2188, F. 2034, Box 54.

Case of Pedro Aragon Y Villegas versus the succession of Jorge Heno.

MERIEULT, JEAN FRANCOIS

(W) (Also spelled Merrieull, and Merieult).

Year 1791, census of the City of New Orleans, lists him as a resident of Barracks Street, also a Militiaman and merchant.

Year 1788, Sp.Doc. #1777, Box #50.

Petitioned the court to prevent Alexandre Baure from collecting money on claims made versus the succession of Louis Boisdore Senior, by virtue of being a heavy creditor of the deceased.

January 18, 1800, Sp.Doc. #3847, Box #82.

Year 1801, Box #84, File #225.

Year 1801, File #213.

March 18, 1800, Sp.Doc. #3876, Box #82.

August 8, 1801, Sp.Doc. #4088, Box #65.

August 7, 1801, Sp.Doc. #4087, Box #85.

September 16, 1802, Sp.Doc. #4225, Box #87

August 11, 1801, Sp.Doc. #4089, Box #85.

April 8, 1801, Sp.Doc. #4047, Box 84.

January 21, 1792, Sp.Doc. #2885, Box #65.

Year 1801, Bound book #4088, located in the second floor vault.

April 17, 1792, Sp.Doc. #2901, Box #65.

Year 1805, census of the city of New Orleans lists him as a resident of South Royal Street.

January 21, 1792, 1792, Sp.Doc. #2885, F. 1386, Box #65.

Don Francisco Merieult versus the succession of Marcos Olivares.

June 17, 1793, Sp.Doc. #3068, F. Box 68.

Case of Francisco Merieult versus the succeseion of Juan Nicholas Bever.

August 8, 1793, Sp.Doc. #3106, F. 1211, Box 68.

Case of Francisco Merieult versus the succession of Louis Boisdore.

MERIBULT MANSION

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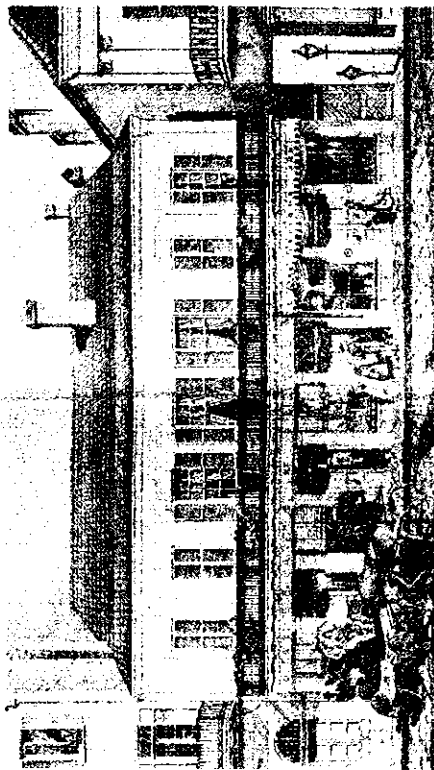
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THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION
THE KEMPER AND LEILA WILLIAMS FOUNDATION

Merieult House

This fine old building, erected in Spanish Colonial times, is a patriarch of the Vieux Carre. It was one of but four survivors, in the direct path of the 1794 fire, which destroyed most of the main buildings of the city. Governor Carondelet, reporting to the Royal Treasurer, said ". . . we managed to stop the fire when it reached the back of the parochial church and the business house of . . . Don Juan Merieult . . ."

Jean Francois Merieult, a merchant prince of his day, built this great house to last—as it has for more than a century-and-three-quarters. It was April 25, 1792 when Merieult bought this lot from the estate sale of Spanish official Don Pedro Aragon y Villegas. Only five months before, Merieult had married an aristocratic Creole of French-Irish descent, Dona Catarina Macnemara. Now he needed a substantial home where, in the New Orleans fashion, he could also conduct his world-wide enterprises.

On the lot when Merieult bought it were the ruins of a building that may

Cover: From an original painting by Boyd Cruise

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have burned four years earlier in the 1788 fire. Building materials, such as good brick and iron hardware, were scarce then, and Merieult thriftily reused what he found on the site.

Recent research, during the restoration of these buildings, revealed walls where older, small French brick had been incorporated into late 18th century walls built by Merieult. French arches were found topped by broader Spanish arches of later vintage. Inserted in three narrow apertures were decorative, thistle-shaped iron grilles which permitted the rooms to breathe. And old bricks were discovered coated with burnt-looking glaze, indicating the fierce heat of a great fire.

The age of these artifacts can be surmised more readily than would be possible in most Vicux Carre squares. For this was "dedicated" property belonging to the crown. When the town was first laid out this square was set aside as an industrial compound. Long barracks buildings were erected to house workmen of the Company of the Indies; there were workshops and forges of the King. Private ownership did not exist until Governor

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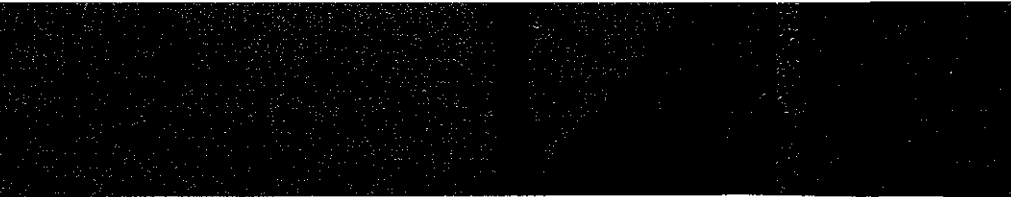
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Kerlerec began making individual grants to colleagues.

This lot went in 1757 to de Callongne, an official in the land office. Francisco Hery, called "Duplanty", a contractor who built the earliest Cabildo, seat of the Spanish government, became his partner. It was Duplanty who erected the first residence on this site, and sold it to the merchant-goldsmith Isaac Guinault.

According to record, Duplanty built a typical French Colonial menage with home and business located on the same lot. Guinault lived here with his family until his death in 1766. When Mme Widow Guinault remarried, she and her husband stayed on. In 1779 she sold this site to the hat-maker Claudio Lacoste. The house changed hands rapidly after that until 1784 when Pedro Aragon purchased it; then it seemingly went down in a devastating fire.

It is a moot question whether the old brick walls, the French arches, the "thistles" were part of the Guinault home or came from earlier structures in the King's compound. But plainly the shadow of the past lies like a



gentle presence on these buildings; it can be sensed and seen as one moves about this ancient courtyard and distinguished dwelling.

When Merieult built the present main house it was one of the most elegant homes of its day. There were six stores on the ground floor, enough for his own affairs with rental property besides. Upstairs the accommodations were of the best: a grand salon, a dining room off a pavillion, bedrooms with their own dressing chambers and one that opened onto a terrace. The rooms had rich cornices, fine mantels, gleaming floorboards, all in the best traditions of late 18th century France.

The outer walls, of brick covered with stucco, were fortress-thick. Ground floor openings were arched in the Spanish manner, though the second floor appeared as it does today. The pitched roof was tiled and pierced with chimneys. In the courtyard were two kitchens, a cellar, pantry, woodshed, coach house and stable.

In this opulent establishment the Merieults raised a family of three children. When they were of suitable age, the young people were taken

to France for their education, and Mme Merieult stayed abroad until her husband came, in 1815, to bring them home. Three years later Jean Francois Merieult died. To settle the estate this great house was sold, first to the commission merchant Jean Lana, then to another business colleague, Laurent Millaudon.

In 1832 it was sold again to a Cuban firm, Lizardi Hermanos, who updated their New Orleans branch in the latest mode. Spanish openings disappeared on the ground floor, and in their stead came the present granite front. Important living quarters on the second floor were redone in the early Greek Revival style, with richly detailed door and window trim, elaborate transoms, marble fireplaces and plaster cornices. Curiously enough, one wing on the uptown side was not renovated, and here can still be seen 18th century square-paned transoms above double doors with shallowly incised panels, brass hardware, and deep cornices of wood.

In 1857 the Lizardis, their ranks thinning, sold to the affluent saddle and harness maker Theodore Danflous, who held this property until 1871

when it was acquired by Juan Garcia y Mora, a Spaniard said to be associated with the Louisiana Lottery. Mora died in Spain, Danflous died in France, and Mme Danflous reclaimed the establishment by right of Mora's defaulted mortgage.

In 1878 Jean Baptiste Trapolin bought Mme Danflous' property, and the Trapolins established a chic little hotel here, known as "The Royal House." Many and sweet were the memories of their children who recalled among their guests "... noted people, foreign consuls, senators, lawyers and wealthy cotton and sugar planters."

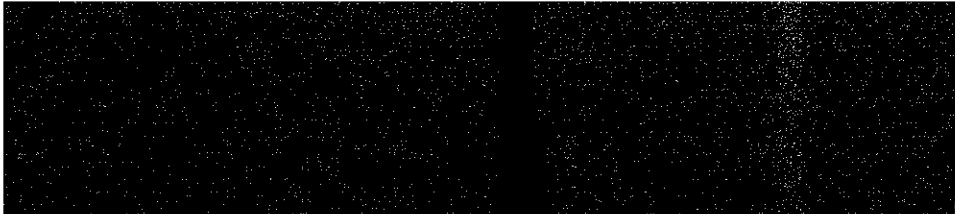
Trapolin built the house in the rear of this lot in 1888, so that his growing family could have a home of their own. His heirs continued to hold this property until 1938, when Mr. and Mrs. L. Kemper Williams acquired Merieult House and undertook its first restoration.

Among the picturesque aspects of this establishment is a rear courtyard surrounded by outbuildings. Here old slate roofs overhang and interweave, so that a continuous maze of narrow wooden balconies is sheltered

by canopies and shaded by occasional jalousies. Extending on one side is a long, three-story service wing, tall, shallow, and galleried at each level. Here the mundane housework was conducted and the servants lived.

Across the courtyard is a building of noble proportions and splendid interior detail. It was here that the most significant archeological finds occurred. The ground floor was erected in Merieult's time, its flat Spanish roof probably being the terrace that opened off a bedroom. The front was rebuilt and the second story undoubtedly added in the 1830's when the Lizardis updated the dwelling. At the same time the great ground floor room was probably given its present rich treatment. The ceiling soars loftily overhead. Pilasters break the walls into interesting patterns. There is a delicately decorated cornice, and a spectacular ceiling medallion. A pair of cypress Ionic columns add dignity to one end of the chamber.

Undoubtedly this was the counting house of Lizardi Hermanos, for such commission merchants functioned as private bankers in those days. It is



also likely that, business done for the day, commerce was put aside so that Mesdames Lizardi might entertain in a glorious ballroom.

Recently this remarkable assemblage of buildings has been restored and adapted by the architectural firm of Richard Koch and Samuel Wilson, Jr. for the Kemper and Leila Williams Foundation to house and display The Historic New Orleans Collection. For many years Mr. and Mrs. Williams discriminately collected paintings, prints, maps, books and artifacts concerned with Louisiana and New Orleans. Now this collection is being made available, in galleries and a study center, to historians and scholars, qualified writers and researchers interested in this phase of the life and times of Louisiana.

20 Maria H. Johnson
 21 J. C. Jones, Jr.
 22 J. C. Jones, Jr.

A close-up photograph of a document page. The document features handwritten text in cursive script. A prominent circular hole punch is visible on the left side of the page, partially obscuring the text. The text appears to be a list or a series of entries, with some words being underlined. The paper has a slightly aged, textured appearance.

Pyralis

Received to 27 November 1853